

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a transfer for application to a substrate, the method comprising the steps of

(a) applying an image to a carrier sheet; and

(b) applying a cover coat over at least that area of the sheet to which the image has been applied to form a transfer suitable for application to a surface of an article,

wherein the image and/or the cover coat is applied using an ink jet printer having a nozzle orifice of between 200 and 500 μm .

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the ink jet printer is a drop on demand printer.

3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the image is applied using a first ink jet printer ~~having a nozzle orifice of between 125 and 500 μm and being~~ operated at a frequency of greater than 1 kHz.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 3, wherein the first drop on demand ink jet printer is operated at a frequency of between 2 and 4 kHz.

5. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein the first drop on demand ink jet printer is operated at a pressure of approximately 3 Bar.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the cover coat is applied using a second ink jet printer having a nozzle orifice of between 125 and 500 μm and being operated at a frequency of greater than 200 Hz.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein the second drop on demand ink jet printer is operated at a pressure of approximately 3 Bar.

11. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein the material deposited to form the image has a viscosity of less than 300 cp.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein the material deposited to form the image has a viscosity of less than 200 cp.

13. (Currently amended) A method of cover coating a transfer for application to a substrate, the method comprising the steps of:

coating a carrier sheet comprising one or more pre-printed images by applying a cover coat over at least that area of the sheet to which an image has been applied, wherein the cover coat is applied using an ink jet printer having a nozzle orifice of between 200 and 500 μm ;

applying the transfer to a ceramic article; and

heating the article to fire the image to the article.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13, wherein the ink jet printer is a drop on demand printer.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 14, wherein the drop on demand ink jet printer is operated at a frequency of between 600 and 2000 Hz.

16. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the drop on demand ink jet printer is operated at a pressure of approximately 3 Bar.

17. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the material deposited to form the image has a viscosity of less than 300 cp.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 17, wherein the material deposited to form the image has a viscosity of less than 200 cp.

19. (Previously presented) An ink jet printer configured to perform the method of claim 1.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the carrier sheet comprises a siliconised paper or card.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

applying the transfer to a ceramic article; and

heating the article to fire the image to the article.

22. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a transfer for application to a substrate, the method comprising the steps of

applying an image to a carrier sheet using an ink jet printer having a nozzle orifice of between 200 and 500 μm , wherein the carrier sheet comprises a siliconised paper or card;

applying a cover coat over at least that area of the sheet to which the image has been applied to form a transfer,

applying the transfer to a ceramic article; and

heating the article to fire the image to the article.